

# INTERSTATE 215 BARTON ROAD INTERCHANGE

## GRAND TERRACE



Because of traffic congestion at the I-215 Barton Road interchange in Grand Terrace, San Bernardino Associated Governments is moving forward with plans to rebuild this interchange at the same time as the I-215 Bi-County High Occupancy Vehicle (Carpool Lane) Gap Closure Project. Barton Road is the only freeway interchange in Grand Terrace and serves as the primary access to the city.

The project will replace the Barton Road interchange to provide for the future widening of the freeway. This project will involve the realignment of the on-ramps, off-ramps and local streets. This will help improve the flow of vehicles by accommodating higher traffic volumes at the interchange.

## TRAFFIC STATISTICS

Source: SANBAG

- Approximately 45,000 vehicles per day are expected to use the Barton Road interchange by 2040, compared to 20,000 per day that use this interchange now.
- Average peak hour traffic counts at this interchange are expected to grow to 7,200 per hour by 2040, compared to 3,200 vehicles per hour now.

## ENGINEERING & ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Like the I-215 Bi-County Project, the Barton Road interchange is in the Project Approval/Environmental Document phase, which involves the preparation of early engineering and environmental reports. These reports and input from the public will help planners understand how the interchange reconstruction will affect the area. This information will help with decision-making for the project and help planners reduce the impact on the community. The technical study reports will be used to prepare project drawings, develop cost estimates and provide information for future project phases – final design, right of way acquisition and construction.

The studies, which are required in order to receive federal and state environmental clearance, take into account the condition of traffic, roadways and structures; drainage, soils and geology; water and air quality; the effects on residents,

businesses, cultural resources, historic resources and sensitive plants and wildlife; the impact to noise levels, views, public services and utilities; the consistency of the project with local general plans; and cost estimates.

Noise studies will be conducted to assess whether residential sound walls are to be built next to the freeway to reduce noise. Residents near potential sound wall locations will be invited to participate in the process.

## COSTS, FUNDING & SCHEDULE

Costs for the Project Approval/Environmental Document phase of work are being shared by SANBAG and RCTC. SANBAG is funding \$3.09 million of this project phase, and RCTC is funding \$1.03 million. The full project cost through construction is estimated to be \$113 million. This estimate is subject to change, based on future cost escalations.

Future funding for the Barton Road interchange project will be provided in part by Measure I, the half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements in San Bernardino County. SANBAG also will pursue state and federal sources to fund the costs of future project phases. Efforts are underway to limit property acquisition and related costs. The Project Approval/Environmental Document is anticipated to be completed in late 2011. SANBAG expects to finalize design and property needs by early 2013, with construction projected to last about three years, from mid-2013 to late 2015.